

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 STR-04 CEA-01

COME-00 FRB-03 TRSE-00 TAR-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

INT-05 FEAEE-00 /066 W

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P R 191718Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5243

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK

SUBJ: BRITISH IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: FRG HAS PUBLISHED TEXT OF
DECEMBER 18 CABLE FROM ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICH
TO EC PRESIDENT ORTOLI CONDEMNING BRITISH IMPORT
RESTRICTIONS. FRIDERICH CABLE STATED THAT BONN NOT
UNAWARE OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DIFFICULT SITUATION,
BUT THAT PATH TAKEN COULD START A DANGEROUS TREND
TOWARD RESTRICTING WORLD TRADE. NOW THAT MOST
INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES HAVE PROBABLY PASSED WORST STAGE

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OF RECESSION, IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO AVOID ANY

ACTION WHICH MIGHT RESTRICT THE ECONOMIC UPSWING. IN
FRG VIEW, EC COMMISSION SHOULD EXAMINE THE BRITISH
MEASURES IN ACCORD WITH A STRICT APPLICATION OF
COMMUNITY LAW REGARDING THE FREE MOVEMENT OF GOODS
WITHIN EC AND TO TRADE RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LOU. MFA TRADE POLICY OFFICIAL (FREITAG)
TOLD EMBOFF THAT FRG RECOGNIZES BRITISH MEASURES ARE
MORE OR LESS SYMBOLIC, AND ARE CERTAINLY NOT AS
SERIOUS AS HAD BEEN EXPECTED. HOWEVER, FRG STRONGLY
BELIEVES THAT RESORT TO TRADE RESTRICTIONS OF ANY KIND
IS NOT THE WAY TO SOLVE THE TYPE OF PROBLEMS BRITAIN
FACES. CABLE TO ORTOLI WAS INTENDED TO MAKE CLEAR
THIS STRONG FRG CONVICTION. IT IS NOW UP TO COMMISSION
TO DECIDE HOW TO HANDLE BRITISH ACTIONS. END LOU.
HILLENBRAND

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